REMARKS

In response to the Examiner's Action mailed on November 19, 2003, claims 1 to 21 are amended. The applicant hereby respectfully requests that the patent application be reconsidered.

An item-by-item response to Examiner's objections or rejections is provided in the followings:

1. *Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)*

An Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) is resubmitted as that required by MPEP § 609.A(1) in a separate transmittal.

2. *Rejection of Claims Under 35 USC 103:*

The Examiner rejects claims 1-21 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rivette et al., US 5,991,780 A priority filed **11/19/1993** in view of Krause et al., US 5,625,827 filed 12/23/1994.

In response to the rejections, claims 1 to 21 are amended. The amended claim 1 now directs to a document management system comprising:
  a) a document reading means for reading a document having textual descriptions and at least a drawing having at least a graphic elements <u>assigned</u> with an-alpha-numeral designation, wherein said document reading means is further provided for converting said graphic element <u>assigned</u> with said alphanumerical-designation and said textual descriptions to a plurality of processor-recognized elements;
  b) a search and link means for searching said processor-recognized elements and linking each of said graphic elements with **at least one associated segment of textual description <u>including said alpha-numeral designation linked to a naming term in said document</u>**; and
  c) a display means for displaying said drawing with each of said naming-term<u>s</u> **displayed immediately next to said graphic elements.**

March 18, 2004

The amended claim 7 now direct to a method of document management comprising:

a) employing a document reading means for reading a document having textual descriptions and at least a drawing <u>having</u> graphic elements each with an associated alpha-numeral designation;

b) converting said document including said graphic elements with said alpha-numeral-designation to a plurality of processor-recognized elements

c) employing a search and link means for searching said processor-recognized elements and linking each of said graphic elements with at least one associated segment of textual description **including said alpha-numeral designation linked to a naming term in said document**; and

d) employing a display means for displaying said drawing with <u>said naming-term displayed</u> **immediately next to** each of said graphic elements

The amended claim 13 now direct to a document management system for reading a document having textual descriptions and at least a drawing consisted of graphic elements <u>each designated with an alpha-numeral designation associated with a naming term in said document</u>, comprising:

a display means for displaying said drawing with <u>said naming term displayed immediately next to</u> each of said graphic elements.

The amended claim 19 now directs to a method for reading and managing a document having textual descriptions and at least a drawing consisted of graphic elements <u>each designated with an alpha-numeral designation associated with a naming term in said document</u>, comprising:

employing a display means for displaying said drawing with <u>said naming term displayed immediately next to</u> each of said graphic elements

The amended claims 1, 9, 13 and 19 are directed a document management system and method for processing a document by linking a drawing with

March 18, 2004

graphic elements assigned with alpha-numeral designation and each of these alpha-numeral designations is associated with a naming term in an associated segment of textual descriptions that include the alpha-numeral designations linked to the naming terms. The system and method then link and display the graphic elements with the naming terms and/or the segment of textual descriptions immediately next to the graphic element.

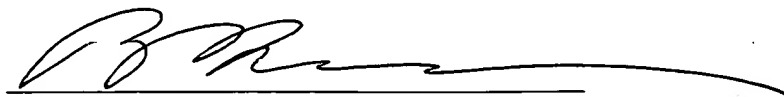In contrast to the disclosures made by Rivette and Krause:

1) These prior art references did not disclose such a linking between the alpha-numeral designation to the naming term.

2) These prior art references did not disclose a drawing that display the naming term with the alpha-numeral designation immediately next to the graphic element.

3) In Fig. 5, Krause display immediately next to the graphic element another graph from another document and not from the same document as now directed by the amended claims.

4) None of the drawings as shown in the prior art references show any naming term in any of the figures.

For the above reasons, the amended claims 1-21 are non-obvious in view of the cited prior art references.

With the amended claims and the reasons provided above, the applicant hereby respectfully requests that Examiner's objections to the drawings and rejections under 35 USC § 103 be withdrawn and the present application be allowed.

Respectfully submitted,
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By

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March 18, 2004